

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: r.lawn@mail.utexas.edu (Richard J. Lawn)
Subject: [2304] Austin Summerfest etc.
Message-ID: <v01510102ac4a5feabfc8@[128.83.204.40]>

Just got back from attending Austin, TX Summerfest. We sold enough to begin looking for a new rig. Any feedback on new Alinco HF rig would be appreciated. I'm trying to decide between it and the FT900.

Here are a few QRP observations from the Fest:

Older F??7 Yaseu rigs going now for \$250-275.

TenTech Argosy went from somewhere between \$250-300 as well.

HW8 went for \$75

Just though everybody might be interested. I use the A & A Engineering 20mtr for QRP and it works FB. Excellent kit. I've also built the cheap little Spider and while the xtal controlled xmitter wrks fine and puts out about a watt, the xcvr section needs help though. Foreign broadcast stations on 40mtrs just kills it, in fact it hears them without even a xtal in the circuit!! Any suggestions for improvement would be appreciated.

Rick

Richard J. Lawn
Associate Dean
5602 Cedro Trail
Austin, TX 78731

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [2302] Explorer Update
Message-ID: <9508061703.AA00961@flowserver.stem.com>

Well...I was finally able to start the explorer 40m kit last night. I expect to finish it sometime today (But first a trip to the farmer's market with the fam and a trip to the rat shack for a better pair of wire strippers). I think I have finally learned to solder and have been making my best connections ever. I'm being amazingly anal about the whole construction project (including positioning all resistors tolerance band down), but that can't hurt. I'm looking forward to the alignment step, as I may have to beg some help. My only equip is a receiver, mfj 207 antenna analyzer (stand-in for a freq gen) and a power meter...hope

it's enough (I haven't read the alignment section yet)....

Wish me luck!!

73 de dave, n9uxu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: [2303] Hehe...
Message-ID: <9508061712.AA24558@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

As for my first QSO...

I was wondering why the signals were so weak... I took a look, and I was feeding the wrong end of my end fed doublet...

New record: Philadelphia to Conway, NH on 1 foot of wire (the antenna)

73

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: [2296] MY FIRST QSO!
Message-ID: <9508060502.AA31665@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

MY FIRST HF QSO HAPPENED AT 0445 UTC 8/6/95 ON 3.7mhz. SURE I REALLY SCREWED UP THE CODE, BUT 3WPM AIN'T BAD FOR A GENERAL! :-)

73

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG

Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [2301] Point me to the anchors...
Message-ID: <9508061658.AA00947@flowserver.stem.com>

Can some one tell me the address for the boat anchors list? I have an old Hallicrafters S-27 receiver laying about which is in dire need of restoration. It's in lovely physical and mechanical shape but electrically, it needs big help.

Thought someone on the other list, might have some schematics or photos lying about.

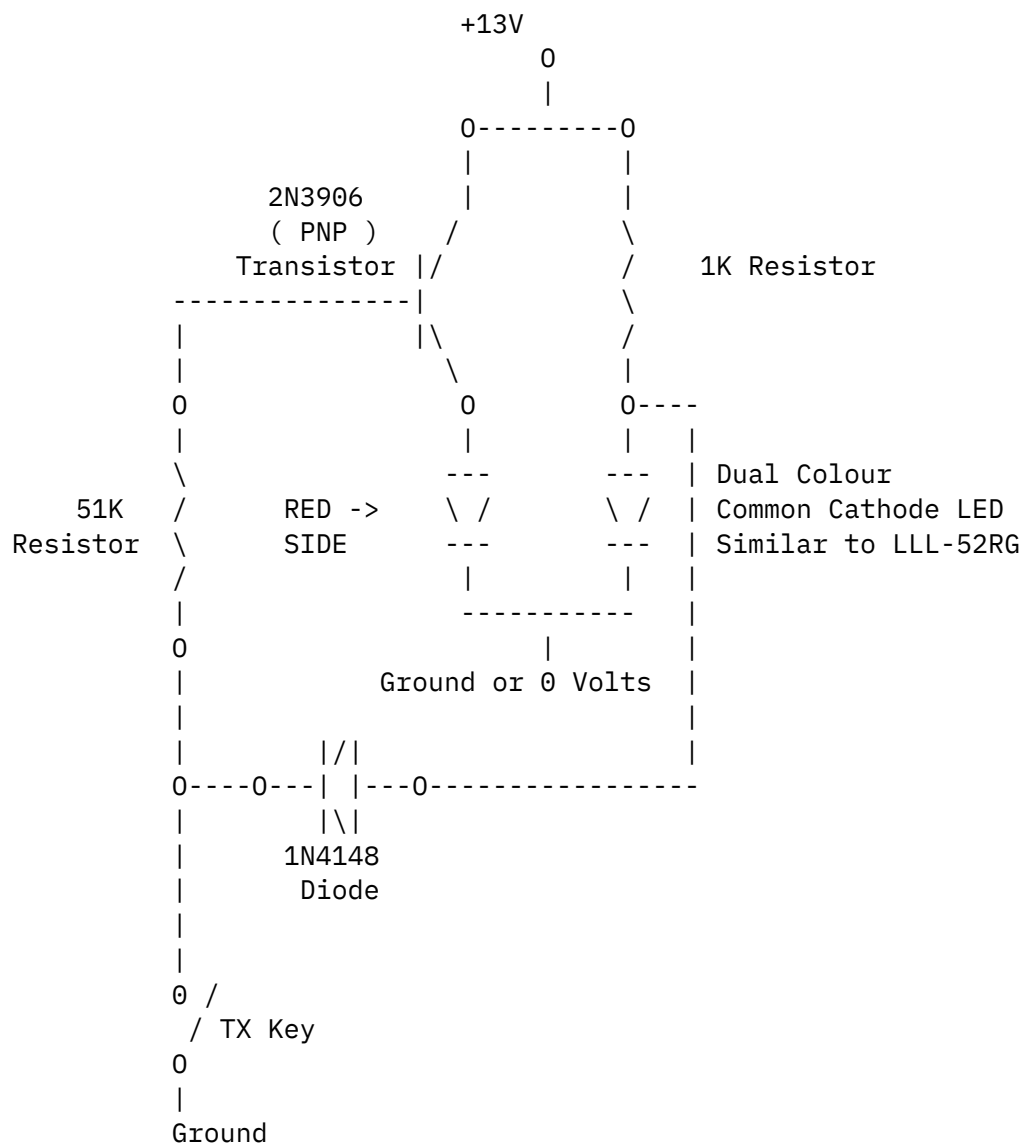
Dave

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: "ROB CARUSO" <caruso-r@clavin.med.ge.com>
Subject: [2294] Power/TX LED Indicator Circuit
Message-ID: <9507058076.AA807683635@clavin.med.ge.com>

Hello all.

Here is a little circuit that I designed and added to my SWL 40. The circuit uses a two colour LED (red / green) to indicate when power is on or if the rig is keyed. I hooked up the LED so that it is green when power is on and red when the unit is transmitting. Since the circuit is simple and small, I built it on perfboard and mounted it on the leads of the LED. Using the chrome type of mount (sold by most RA*IO SH**K'S) for the LED works quite well. The circuit should work with most rigs. Also, this circuit was designed to be as simple as possible and as a result, may be a little bit power hungry for those of you watching your milliAmps.

Hope this helps. :-)



72 de VA3ROB

Standard Disclaimer(s) Apply

Damn it Jim. I'm a technician, not an artist!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
 From: N5EM@aol.com

Subject: [2308] QRP Forum, Houston Convention
Message-ID: <950806191506_49319339@aol.com>

Any of you experienced, learned-looking, QRPers interested in participating in the Gulf Coast Ham Convention as a speaker in the QRP forum please drop ME a note so that I can determine scheduleing. I am hoping for 8 qrpers who would like to teach/inform their peers on their specialty. At about 20-25 minutes per speaker, that would fill a half-day forum.

Thanks for your assistance.

72
Ed Manuel, N5EM
n5em@aol.com

Subj: Gulf Coast Ham Convention - Call for Speakers
Date: 95-07-27 09:57:03 EDT
From: paigecom@phoenix.phoenix.net (Bruce)
To: clarc@mailserv.phoenix.net, n5em@aol.com, wa5zib@amsat.org,
mdavidson@infosvcs.tmh.tmc.edu, afmattis@i-link.net,
emmett.bean@hal-pcii.hou.tx.us, 70323.2750@compuserve.com
CC: wd5l@bangate.compaq.com

The Gulf Coast Ham Convention will be November 3-5, 1995 at the Humble Convention Center in Humble, Texas. This is on the north side of Houston. Approximately 3,000+ hams are expected. Major exhibitors will be (ICOM, Kenwood, MFJ, Kantronics, Paccom, Tucker to name a few). There will be a Friday night auction, a Saturday luncheon with a guest speaker that will certainly draw an overwhelming crowd, VE Test sessions (Friday evening, Saturday morning and afternoon, Sunday morning and afternoon). Lots of indoor flea market spaces available and outdoor tail gate spaces.

The immediate request is for anyone that would like to speak at a seminar. We have approximately 40 seminar time slots available Saturday and Sunday. We need to know who would like to speak and what the topic is so that we can assign non-conflicting time slots. Seminars on ATV, QCWA, 10-X, ARES, RACES, Packet, AMSAT, Antennas, Building Stealth Antennas, just about any ham related topic is welcome.

Flea Market space and registration information will be announced shortly. If you would like to present a seminar, please let me know as soon as possible. You can email me here.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: "ROB CARUSO" <caruso-r@clavin.med.ge.com>
Subject: [2295] SWLXX SQUEAL AT POWER OFF
Message-ID: <9507058076.AA807683629@clavin.med.ge.com>

How about this for an easy and relatively cheap fix for the SWL XX
squeal when switching the power off. It worked for me!

```
-----  
POWER SUPPLY ---      --- HEADPHONE JACK  
                   |      |  
                   o /   o /   DPST or DPDT POWER SWITCH  
                   /     /     MOUNTED in SWL ENCLOSURE  
                   0      0  
                   |      |  
V+ ON PCB ---      --- AF OUT ON PCB  
-----
```

72's de VA3ROB

Standard Disclaimer(s) Apply.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [2292] Ten Tec Speech Processor Kit
Message-ID: <950805194013_131350747@aol.com>

Hi Rich,

Just finished building the Ten Tec Speech Processor, what a job ! The PC
board is 1.75" by 1.75" and has all components mounted vertically. It has 20
resistors, 11 electrolytic caps, 3 diodes, 2 IC.'s, 1 transistor, 3 ceramic
disc caps, 2 pots and 4 jumpers. (42 components) The board is glass epoxy,
so you can see thru it, to check for solder bridges (a very necessary step).
This is one kit where magifier and light are essential equipment, even for
the younger guys. I used it to find the locations on the silk screened board,

solder the components and check for bridges. Wont power it up until i get it into a metal box and get some shielded cable for the audio leads. Looks like I got my 12 dollars worth !!!

It runs on 12 vdc, so it should make a fine addition to the QRP Plus or any other QRP portable rig. I found one error in the manual, they say to install R22 twice, the second time, they meant R19 (the processor gain pot). I think you'll be pleased with this one. The same circuit is used in the Omni-6 and the Paragon 2.

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [2298] Ten Tec Speech Processor Kit
Message-ID: <950806091510_131611627@aol.com>

Hi Nils & Bob,

The speech processor is a pair of LM358 dual op amps. Ten Tec includes a ten page manual, with a full page schematic, very readable and a circuit description: U2A is a audio amp, U1A is another audio amp, U1B is another audio amp, next is the compression transistor, a pair of clipper diodes, and a U2B as a buffer stage. There are two pots, R19 for audio gain, and R22 for compression. R22 is a compressed and limited speech processor level control. The pc board has a silk screened parts layout, plus the manual also has a drawing of the parts layout. Its Ten Tens T-Kit #1551, Ten Tec calls this a standard module of their universal QRP system.

Ten Tec doesnt recommend or mention any type of microphone, dynamic or electrek.

Looks like one of my best buys at Dayton this year. Maybe i should have bought that Omni-6....

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Subject: [2306] VFO Stability
Message-ID: <199508062126.0AA19802@netcom12.netcom.com>

I'm pretty finicky about VFO drift, being a musician with acute sensitivity to pitch. So I thought I'd share a few experiences in homebrewing 7 MHz VFO's and ask some other comments/advice.

The simple Hartley circuit (such as W7EL's Optimized QRP Xcvr) never satisfied me -- it never seemed to settle down, with a slow drift downward that never stopped. This is after boiling the toroid (which helped), and using NP0 caps. It went down about 200 Hz in an hour (cold start), thereafter about 80 Hz per hour -- enough to notice during a QSO, because at 750 Hz a change in pitch by a half-step (musically speaking) is about 40 Hz -- noticeable to me! This is after boxing it up carefully, letting it cool a long time, etc.

Incidentally, it's interesting to listen for drift when heating the leads of individual components. A quick probe with the iron, and withdrawing a safe distance, showed that capacitors marked NP0 do indeed have *some* drift in an imperfect world, but most of them moved very little (and in either direction!) Heating the transistor, and even the RIT tuning diode, had less effect than I thought. BUT, of course, the TOROID was the biggest culprit, providing a significant downward drift of 1 or 2 kHz (i.e., more inductance) when the iron was stuck in the hole for about 2 seconds. (This is a T-44-6 coil).

Substituting air wound Miniductor stock helped, but again that steady drift down.

Then I built up the series-tuned Colpitts used by W1FB, a breadboard version without a box. At 7 MHz, a toroid inductor (about 6 uH) again proved unsatisfactory, the drift being about the same. Using a piece of close spaced airwound coil stock, stability improved a lot, with many 1 hour periods where I could leave the room and return, and the pitch remained steady to my ear. (this means less than 40 Hz).

Better yet, a close-wound wire coil on a 1/2 inch ceramic form (no slug) did even better in the above circuit. One run I left it sitting all night, and it stayed with a half-step at about 200 Hz audible pitch -- a drift of about 10 Hz! Spot checks during the day showed it staying within about this range. Other runs varied, but were significantly better than other configurations. And all this without a box, though in a room without windows with fairly steady temperature (when the central air isn't on).

Both of the air-wound coils were far more immune to drift from blowing on them at a distance (warm air from your breath).

My drift was measured by ear on a RS DX440 receiver, with BFO continually recalibrated to zero beat on 10 MHz WWV. (Yes, you CAN hear zero beat if

you listen for variations in background noise, and especially when it's modulated with a continuous tone).

So, it seems that the old Miniductor stock, with its plastic ribs, is pretty good, but prone to some drift from heating. I wonder how good a piece of small PVC pipe would work -- because my ceramic forms are a bit large and I don't know how to cut them cleanly!

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing
: Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
: Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah...
: Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: davida@utw.com (David A McPhie)
Subject: [2305] wilderness nor cal 40a success
Message-ID: <199508061847.MAA24530@stellar.comnet.com>

>To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
>From: davida@utw.com (David A McPhie)
>Subject: wilderness nor cal 40a success
>
> I recieved the kit about 10 days ago. The packaging, parts, and manual are well done.
>I used it as an opportunity to teach my tech plus son what soldering parts on a pc board is about.
>Including winding the toroids, it took us about 5 hours to complete everything including mechanical assembly and alignment. Attached antenna and applied 12v and worked first time. Draws 18.5 ma on recieve. Cute, nice audio. Called Bob once durring assembly, he was very nice and helpfull.
Congratulations to Nor Cal, Wayne Burdick and Wilderness 73s Dave WA7YCA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [2299] Re: Power/TX LED Indicator Circuit
Message-ID: <950806091853_131611633@aol.com>

Hi Rob,

Thanks for the LED circuit, looks great. How are you getting the contact for the tranmit key? are you keying a relay with multiple contacts or does your

keyer supply an extra contact?

Also, have you checked the amount of current it draws. I've heard that LED's can be run at reduced current levels and still give off an acceptable amount of light. Looks like a nice add-on.

You know how a digital logic probe uses a cmos ic to power a LED, so it doesnt load down the circuit being tested. Couldnt this be used for a keying indicator. I think there are diodes that only draw a few milliamps instead of the usual 20 ma. Do you happen to know what Cmos chip they use?

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: "Charles A. Rubenstein" <rubenc@iglou.com>
Subject: [2293] Re: survey of Wilderness '40A builders
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950805215107.13301A-100000@iglou.iglou.com>

WELL.....IT WORKS !!!!!!!

Can't believe I built a radio that works, but the Norcal 40A did.
Took me about 5 hours today, but there is some sort of contest going on 40 M now, and they are answering me right and left. My meter isnt too accurate at these low settings, but it appears to give 3+ watts.
Now for the PROBLEMS:

- 1) When I went to do the RX alignment, C1 and C2 don't seem to peak ANYWHERE.
(might be related to #2.
- 2) There is hardly ANY audio. With R8 up all the way, can barely hear.
What might *I* have done wrong to get such puny AF levels.
- 3) I am about to remove ANOTHER turn from the torroid, cuz highest I can tune is about 7.038. I'll be at 59 turns then. (Manual says 59 turns for NOVICE band)

In short, Im AMAZED it runs after being under my soldering pen, but it seems either DEEF, or just an AF amp problem. There doesnt seem to BE any static between stations. (RF gain IS up)

Charlie Rubenstein
KB8BWE@N8LHG.#CIN.OH.USA.NA
rubenc@iglou.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: "Charles A. Rubenstein" <rubenc@iglou.com>
Subject: [2307] Re: survey of Wilderness '40A builders
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950806180502.24918B-100000@iglou.iglou.com>

Well, Wayne, it DID (note tense change) work.....trying to trace low AF and lack of sensitivity, I smoked something by accidentally shorting the secondary of T1 to the sink on the PA. Something went POOF, and now it no longer makes RF or hears things. While it was sorta deaf and af was real low, I DID work several stations during the contest that was going on last nite. RI, PA, MD, even WA....not bad before I hosed up my handiwork. Any suggestions before I send it to Wilderness to take them up on their Fix it offer? I dont know WHAT I blew up, and don't really know how to trace such an unknown problem. (PHOOEY, and I was starting to be PROUD of myself. hee hee)

Charlie Rubenstein
KB8BWE@N8LHG.#CIN.OH.USA.NA
rubenc@iglou.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [2297] Re: Ten Tec Speech Processor Kit
Message-ID: <199508061202.JAA31245@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Byron,

Does the Ten Tec specs give you much info on what type of speech processing they use - I suspect for the price that it is an AF (not RF) processor but what does the circuit look like - AF shaping, clipping? Also do they say what types of microphones work best with it (Hi Z, Lo Z, powered electrets etc)

Anyway the unit sounds good and may be useful for the upcoming Cascade and also the QRP+. Let us know how it works with your QRP+ and what microphone are you using.

Thanks for post.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/Wa6ERB

>Just finished building the Ten Tec Speech Processor, what a job ! The PC
>board is 1.75" by 1.75" and has all components mounted vertically. It has 20
>resistors, 11 electrolytic caps, 3 diodes, 2 IC.'s, 1 transistor, 3 ceramic
>disc caps, 2 pots and 4 jumpers. (42 components) The board is glass epoxy,
>so you can see thru it, to check for solder bridges (a very necessary step).
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>

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>the Paragon 2.

>

>72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

>

>

>

>

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca
bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Aug 6 19:16:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [2300] Re: Ten Tec Speech Processor Kit
Message-ID: <199508061343.LAA32392@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Byron,

Thanks for the info. Maybe Ten Tec would sell you the Omni VI and throw in
a Scout as a "tow-along" package - It's like when you buy one of those
zillion dollar Winabego RV's and they throw in a little Honda Civic (or
equivalent) to tow along :^)

Tnx 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Looks like one of my best buys at Dayton this year. Maybe i should have

>bought that Omni-6....

>

>72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

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-----  
| Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |  
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca                |  
|                bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca                   |  
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com                      |  
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